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AgSouth Farm Credit Sponsors Local Square Foot Garden

Greenwood, SC—Chris Kirkland, Relationship Manager for AgSouth Farm Credit presented a check and a book entitled, *All New Square Foot Gardening Grow More in Less Space!* by Mel Bartholomew to Will Bass, Abbeville High School FFA Chapter President and FFA Adviser, Fred Raines. The FFA Chapter with the support of AgSouth is in the initial stages of establishing a square foot garden.



The initial start up money will be used to establish the beds and prepare the garden for future growing seasons. The students will sharpen their skills and learn both farming techniques and how best to market the end product. The students anticipate growing a variety of vegetable crops including corn, bell peppers, tomatoes, squash, okra, pumpkins, and hot peppers.

Kirkland, with AgSouth Farm Credit states, “we are very excited to commence this partnership with the Abbeville County FFA Chapter. Our goal is to share our passion for agriculture and to assist the students as they become future farmers.”

AgSouth Farm Credit, a cooperative, is one of the largest agricultural and rural lenders in the Southeast. As a cooperative, AgSouth shares its profits with customers and in the spring of 2011, AgSouth had an economic impact of over \$440,000 in Abbeville, Greenwood, and McCormick counties. As of September 30, 2011, AgSouth had more

than 7,420 members, \$1.65 billion in assets and \$254 million in capital and allocated accounts.

AgSouth provides loans for young, beginning and small farmers, agricultural operations, real estate, rural homes, home construction, timber and recreational tracts and offers leasing for automobiles, equipment, buildings and commercial operations. For more information, call Chris Kirkland at 864.227.2561 or 800.922.1435 or visit AgSouth online at www.agsouthfc.com.

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